

Message Text

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47

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ARAE-00 SSO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07

INR-07 LAB-04 NSAE-00 SIL-01 INRE-00 PM-04 NSC-05

SP-02 SS-15 NSCE-00 CU-02 PA-01 PRS-01 USIE-00 SY-05

OPR-02 AID-05 /072 W

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O R 141445Z NOV 75

FM AMEMBASSY QUITO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7956

INFO AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

AMEMBASSY LIMA

AMCONSUL GUAYAQUIL

USSOUTHCOM

DIA WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L QUITO 8304

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT PINS ASEC EC

SUBJECT: NATIONWIDE STRIKE ENDS AND BOTH UNIONS AND GOVERNMENT
DECLARE VICOTRY

REF: A. QUITO 8298

B. QUITO 8302

1. THE NOVEMBER 13 NATIONWIDE STRIKE CAME AND WENT, AND NEITHER THE GOVERNMENT, THE UNIONS, THE PUBLIC, OR FOR THAT MATTER THE AMERICAN MISSION SEEM ANY THE WORSE FOR IT. AS WE HAD INDICATED IN REFTELS, THERE WERE SCATTERED INCIDENTS BUT LITTLE OVERT, CONCERTED VIOLENCE; MINIMAL POLICE FORCE WAS USED TO REPRESS SUCH INCIDENTS (MAINLY CAUSED BY STUDENTS) AS OCCURRED; ARRESTS SEEM TO HAVE BEEN FEW; AND POLITICAL PARTIES AND GROUPS WERE UNABLE OR DID NOT TRY TO TURN THE STRIKE TO THEIR ADVANTAGE AGAINST THE RODRIGUEZ LARA GOVERNMENT.

2. THUS IN THE IMMEDIATE AFTERMATH ON THE MORNING OF NOVEMBER
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14, BOTH CONTESTANTS (IF THAT IS THE WORD) HAVE CONGRATU-

LATED THEMSELVES ON THEIR VICTORY. CEOSL, FOR ITS PART, DECLARED THAT THE STRIKE OF THE THREE CONFEDERATIONS HAD BEEN "A TOTAL SUCCESS, WHICH DEMONSTRATES THE HIGH DEGREE OF CONSCIOUSNESS, ORGANIZATION AND CLASS DISCIPLINE WHICH THE WORKERS OF THIS COUNTRY HAVE REACHED..." THE GOVERNMENT STRESSED THE ABSENCE OF VIOLENCE AND THE NORMALITY WHICH REIGNED IN THE COUNTRY DURING THE STRIKE. AS A MATTER OF FACT, THE GOE WAS SO SATISFIED WITH THE OUTCOME THAT THE SECRETARY GENERAL OF ADMINISTRATION WAS QUOTED IN THE PRESS NOVEMBER 14 AS SAYING THAT "IF THE WORKERS HAVE DECLARED A STRIKE THEY WILL HAVE THEIR REASONS. BUT THEY WILL NOT LET GO UNRECOGNIZED THE ATTENTION WHICH THE GOVERNMENT HAS BEEN GIVING, GIVES AND WILL GIVE TO SOLVING IN THE BEST WAY THE DIFFERENT PROBLEMS WHICH MAY EXIST IN THE LABORING CLASS."

3.COMMENT: THE THREE CONFEDERATIONS HAVE SHOWN THAT DESPITE THEIR VERY CONSIDERABLE DIFFERENCES THEY CAN UNITE--AT LEAST FOR TWELVE HOURS. THE GOVERNMENT, HOWEVER, HAS WON, IF NOT A BATTLE, THEN AN IMPORTANT SKIRMISH IN ITS STRUGGLE TO RE-ESTABLISH ITS CREDIBILITY AND PRESTIGE.

4. SCORE A PLUS FOR RODRIGUEZ LARA AND COMPANY.
BREWSTER

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